

# Philemon





Philemon

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Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and  
Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our beloved fellow  
worker and Apphia our sister and  
Archippus our fellow soldier, and the  
church in your house:

Grace to you and peace from God  
our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.



# Philemon

1

I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and for all the saints, and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ.

For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.



# Philemon

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Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus— I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. (Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.)

I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord.



# Philemon

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For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, no longer as a bondservant but more than a bondservant, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.



# Philemon

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Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say. At the same time, prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping that through your prayers I will be graciously given to you.

Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends greetings to you, and so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers.



Aug 5, 2012



# Philemon



Ephesian  
s 2:4-5

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the **great love** with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved.

Colossian  
s 1:21-22

And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, **he has now reconciled** in his body of flesh by his death.

Colossian  
s 1:13

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and **transferred** us to the kingdom of his beloved Son.

2  
Corinthians  
5:18-19

All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and **entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.**

Colossian  
s 3:11

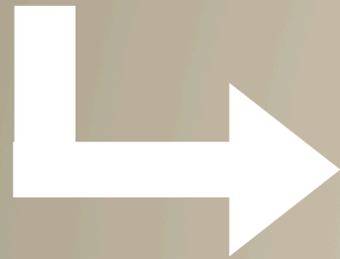
Here there is not Greek and Jew,  
circumcised and uncircumcised,  
barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but  
**Christ is all**, and in all.

Galatians  
3:27-28

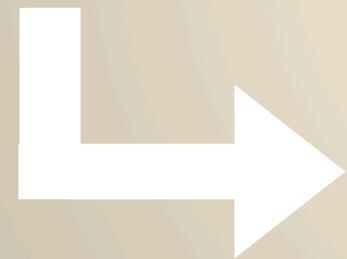
For as many of you as were baptized  
into Christ have put on Christ. There is  
neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither  
slave nor free, there is no male and  
female, for **you are all one** in Christ  
Jesus.

“Because of the great love with which he loved us”

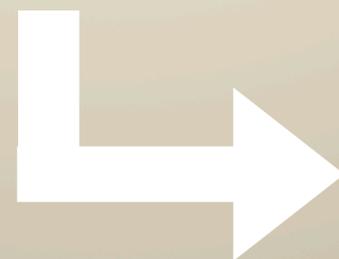
“He has now reconciled us in his body of flesh by his death”



“Transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son”



“Gave us the ministry of reconciliation”

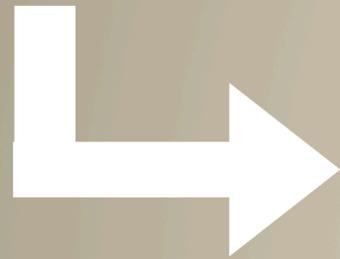


“There is neither slave nor free”

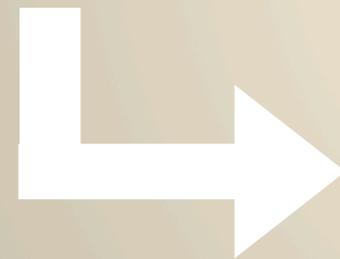
“You are all one in Christ Jesus”

“Because of the great love with which he loved us”

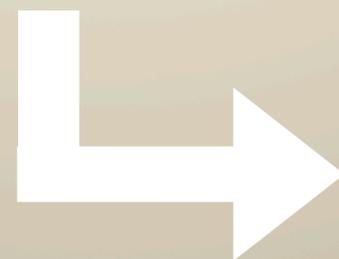
“He has now reconciled us in his body of flesh by his death”



“Transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son”



“Gave us the ministry of reconciliation”



“There is neither slave nor free”

“You are all one in Christ Jesus”

The gospel demands that we do not focus only on evangelism as the primary responsibility of a disciple of Christ.

We are called to partake in a new humanity where social hierarchies and divisions are actively broken down by the power of the gospel.



# Galatians 2:11-14

But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. For before certain men came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and separated himself, fearing the circumcision party. And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy.

But when I saw that **their conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel**, I said to Cephas before them all, "If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?"

The most honest indicator of true faith is the presence of Christ-like love in our most difficult and messy relationships.